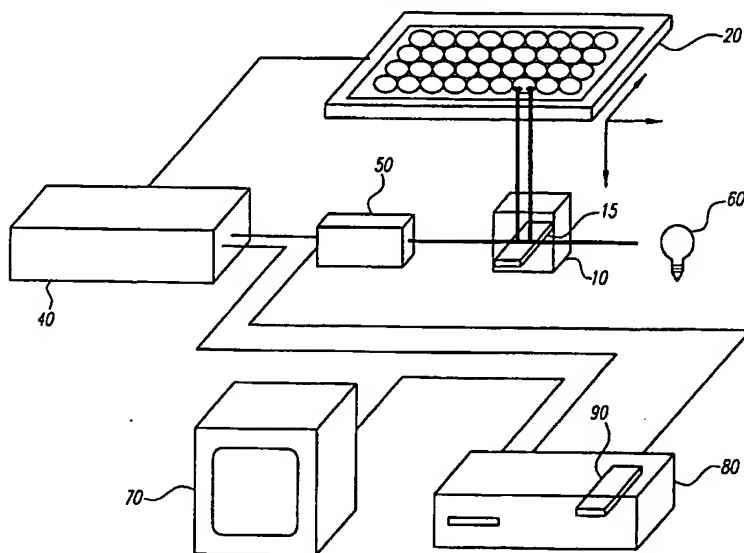




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<p>(21) International Application Number: <b>PCT/US99/01647</b></p> <p>(22) International Filing Date: <b>26 January 1999 (26.01.99)</b></p> <p>(30) Priority Data:  60/073,023      29 January 1998 (29.01.98)      US  09/176,146      21 October 1998 (21.10.98)      US</p> <p>(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): <b>RIBOZYME PHARMACEUTICALS, INC. [US/US]; 2950 Wilderness Place, Boulder, CO 80301-5411 (US).</b></p> <p>(72) Inventor; and  (75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): <b>HARTMANN, Thomas [DE/US]; 955 Marine #5, Boulder, CO 80302 (US).</b></p> <p>(74) Agents: <b>WARBURG, Richard, J. et al.; Lyon &amp; Lyon LLP, Suite 4700, 633 West Fifth Street, Los Angeles, CA 90071-2066 (US).</b></p>	<p>(81) Designated States: <b>AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).</b></p> <p><b>Published</b>  <i>With international search report.</i></p>	

(54) Title: **IMAGE ACQUISITION AND IMAGE ANALYSIS OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL****FIPS - HARDWARE SETUP****(57) Abstract**

The present invention provides apparatus and methods for the automated image acquisition and analysis of biological samples contained in a plurality of wells. High resolution images are acquired using a camera and a motorized stage. The images are digitized, processed, and analyzed without the need for user interaction.

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